

In the Drawings:

Enclosed are corrected drawings, Figure 17, 18 and 19B which show element 1703. A complete set of formal drawings has also been enclosed. No new matter has been entered.

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Last paragraph on page 28 and continuing on page 29:

Fig. 17 is a front view of a bridge clip embodiment of a tissue connector assembly of the present invention, generally designated with reference numeral 1701. Tissue connector assembly 1701 includes a bridge clip 1707 having a pair of clips or fasteners 1703 and a connecting bridge 1705. Each of the pair of clip and components corresponding to each of the pair of clips is denoted with a prime or double-prime. Thus, for example, the pair of clips 1703 includes a first clip 1703' and a second clip 1703''. In one embodiment, the materials and configuration of assembly 1701 are essentially symmetric, and corresponding primed and double-primed components are mirror images of one another. In another embodiment, tissue connector assembly is not symmetric, and thus a primed component and the corresponding double-primed component may be of different materials or geometry, or may be constructed differently but be functionally equivalent.

First full paragraph on page 36:

The piercings on target vessel 1903 are spaced similarly to those on toe 1905. With tissue connector 1701 positioned as in Fig. 19A, the piercing members 16' and 16'' can be gently pulled, allowing for precise and careful placement of toe 1905 on target vessel 1903. Once the vessels 1901 and 1903 are aligned and the release members 28 and 29 are pulled through the top side of target vessel 1903, bridge clip 1707 can be released from the flexible members 18 and piercing members 16. Fig. 19B shows bridge clip 1707 in the closed configuration as it appears after joining vessels 1901 and 1903. Each fastener 1703'[[a]] and 1703''[[b]] is positioned, prior to closing, from the outer to

inner surface of 1901 and through the inner to outer surface of target vessel 1903. Upon closing, each fastener completes the loop, holding the two vessels at two positions separated by the distance of the bridge 1705. The fastening of the vessels at two locations that are held together by the bridge portion provides added support to the anastomosis at the point where the forces which tend to pull the vessels apart is greatest. Once the graft-target attachment is secured at toe 1905, the remainder of the attachment can be performed using tissue connectors 1907 as shown in Figs. 19B-C.